



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY TRAIL PROJECT, A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION ADMINISTERED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Bay Trail Grants Awarded in Record Numbers

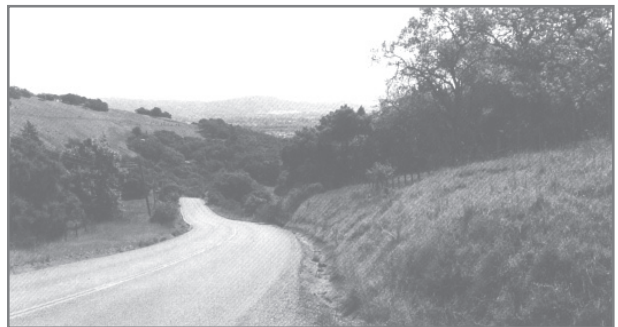
Thanks to Governor Gray Davis, the California Legislature and dedicated advocates and voters like you, the San Francisco Bay Trail received its largest contribution to date last year! The 2000 - 2001 State budget appropriated \$7.5 million from the "Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000" (Proposition 12) for the Bay Trail. The Bay Trail allocation was directed through the State Coastal Conservancy to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), which administers the Bay Trail Project. In past years, the Bay Trail received appropriations of \$2.5 million (1999/2000), \$1 million (1997/1998) and \$200,000 (1996/1997).

Competitive grants are offered to cities, counties and districts to develop their local Bay Trail sections through the award winning "Regional Development Grant Program." Projects that leverage State monies, build key trail sections, close trail gaps, employ and train Conservation Corps members, overcome obstacles and create new cooperative partnerships to increase awareness of the Bay Trail receive priority through the program. Grants are awarded both for trail construction and for planning or feasibility studies to speed trail development. In addition to building the trail, construction grants also fund trail amenities, such as bridges, fences, benches, signs and landscaping. Grants for planning or feasibility studies are often awarded in cases where conditions have changed since the 1989 Bay Trail Plan was adopted, or where there are long-standing obstacles to trail development.

In the first round of grants under the \$7.5 million allocation, 63 applications were submitted from all nine Bay Area Counties, for funding requests in excess of \$15 million. The State Coastal Conservancy has authorized 29 grants to date, totaling \$4.6 million. These grants will leverage about \$43 million in total project costs and result in the direct construction of 13 miles of trail, bridges and trail



The new pedestrian and bicycle improvements on Maxwell Bridge in Napa will provide a safe link to the proposed Napa River Trail.



The recently funded Sonoma County Corridor Study will help Sonoma County Regional Parks determine a feasible Bay Trail alignment in Southern Sonoma County.

amenities, and the planning of another 44 miles! And many more projects will be authorized in the new year, once environmental clearance and other project details are completed.

These newly awarded grants will provide benefits to trail users in all nine of the shoreline counties. Many trail construction projects, such as the **San Francisco Downtown Ferry Terminal Public Pier**, will provide public access in highly used urban areas. Other projects, such as the **Maxwell Bridge Pathway** and **Millbrae Avenue Highway 101 Overcrossing** will enhance trail safety in high traffic areas. Several projects will provide access to new or improved park systems, such as **Shoreline Parks Trail** in San Mateo and the **Union Point Park Bay Trail**.

Many of the new trails will provide transportation options to large employment centers, such as the **Damon Slough Trail Connection**, which will connect to the recently constructed Zhong headquarters, and the **Coyote Creek Trail** which will provide a new bicycle and pedestrian connection to McCarthy Ranch retail center and other nearby high-tech industries. Finally, several of the planning studies that were funded are developing regional bicycle and trail plans, such as the **Solano Countywide Trails Plan** and the **Sonoma County Corridor Study**.

Although the projects are too numerous to detail all of them, each one is integral to the completion of the Bay Trail vision. However, 8 representative projects are summarized on page 2 and additional recent grants are listed on page 3. In the coming months, Bay Trail staff will be busy administering grants and ensuring that all of these new projects advance. If you have any questions about the Bay Trail or the Regional Development Grant Program, please contact Bay Trail Project Manager, Janet McBride (510/464-7935).

A Sampling of New Bay Trail Grants

Below is a sampling of the diverse projects that received Bay Trail Grants from the \$7.5 Million Proposition 12 award:

1. Port of San Francisco – San Francisco Downtown Ferry Terminal Public Pier (\$200,000):

The Port of San Francisco will create public access improvements as part of the 600-foot Downtown Ferry Terminal Public Pier Project, connecting the Ferry Terminal to the Embarcadero Promenade. This link will provide a safe and accessible bayside route for locals and tourists along a spectacular stretch of San Francisco's waterfront.

2. City of San Mateo – Shoreline Parks Trail (\$500,000):

As part of a larger project identified in the Shoreline Parks Master Plan, San Mateo will complete trail construction and improvements to the Shoreline Parks system. Bay Trail funds will be applied to a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge across San Mateo Creek, as well as new trail construction and corridor realignment.

3. City of Menlo Park – Bayfront to Ravenswood Preserve Study (\$40,000):

Menlo Park will complete a trail alignment study for a 0.57-mile gap between the Dumbarton Bridge and Ravenswood Open Space Preserve. Closing this critical gap will provide a continuous link between Ravenswood Open Space Preserve and northern destinations such as Bayfront Park and the San Francisco National Wildlife Refuge, as well as across the Dumbarton Bridge to East Bay localities.

4. City of Milpitas – Coyote Creek Trail (\$340,000):

Milpitas, in partnership with the Santa Clara Valley Water District, will construct 2.75 miles of Bay Trail along levees adjacent to Coyote Creek between Highway 237 and Dixon Landing Road. This Bay Trail spine will provide a new bicycle and pedestrian connection to McCarthy Ranch retail center and will also serve as an alternative transportation corridor for employees of nearby high-tech industries.

5. East Bay Regional Park District – Damon Slough Trail Connection (\$134,000):

The East Bay Regional Park District will construct 1,000 linear feet of Bay Trail from Damon Slough to the existing trail to the north in Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline. The project will complete a long-standing gap in the Bay Trail spine by retrofitting an existing railroad bridge crossing Damon Slough. This segment will provide access to a new job center in the Oakland Airport area, including the recently constructed Zhone headquarters.

6. Contra Costa County – Carquinez Scenic Drive Pathway Study (\$75,000):

Contra Costa County Department of Public Works will complete a geotechnical and alternative routes study for a two-mile segment of the Bay Trail in Carquinez Regional Shoreline. The trail corridor is along Carquinez Scenic Drive, closed since 1982. The objective of the planning project is to determine feasible alternatives, identify costs and hold meetings with the public and interested parties to select a new alignment.

7. City of Napa – Maxwell Bridge Pathway (\$300,000):

This project will help fund bicycle and pedestrian improvements on the new Maxwell Bridge over the Napa River, including bike lanes, sidewalks, bridge approaches, signs and traffic striping. The new connections will link the Bay Trail to the proposed Napa River Trail and will provide safer access across the river.

8. City of Novato – Hamilton Bay Trail (\$375,000):

Novato will construct and improve 0.60-miles of Bay Trail on Reservoir Hill providing viewing points of the Hamilton Wetland Restoration Project. Trail construction will involve grading and slope repair, planting of native vegetation and installation of a decomposed granite trail surface. Additional tasks include parking lot resurfacing, re-stream installation and directional signage.



1. Downtown Ferry Terminal Public Pier



2. City of San Mateo Shoreline Parks Trail



3. Menlo Park Bayfront to Ravenswood



4. Milpitas Coyote Creek Trail

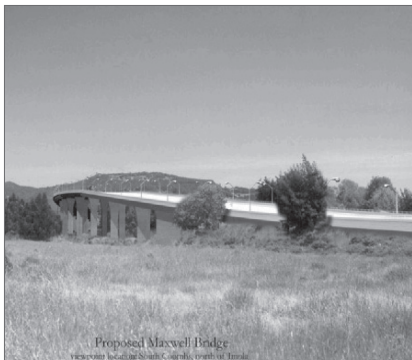
New Bay Trail Grants, Cont.



5. Damon Slough Trail Connection



6. Carquinez Scenic Drive Pathway Study



7. Maxwell Bridge Pathway



8. Hamilton Bay Trail

In addition to the grants described on page 2, the following grants have been authorized to date by the Coastal Conservancy:

Golden Gate National Parks Association, *Golden Gate Bridge South Public Access Study* (\$80,000)

San Rafael, *Shoreline Park South Pond* (\$108,776)

Tiburon, *Trestle Glen Feasibility Study* (\$60,000)

Sausalito, *Bridgeway Bikelanes* (\$299,000)

County of San Mateo, *Coyote Point Park Study* (\$42,000)

Millbrae, *Millbrae Avenue Highway 101 Overcrossing* (\$125,000)

Redwood City, *Blomquist Street Extension* (\$300,000)

City of Santa Clara, *San Tomas Aquino/Saratoga Creek Trail Connector* (\$300,000)

County of Alameda, *Coliseum BART to Bay Trail* (\$45,000)

Spanish Speaking Unity Council, *Union Point Park Bay Trail* (\$500,000)

Oakland, *West Oakland Bay Trail* (\$250,000)

Albany, *Cerrito Creek Connector Study* (\$100,000)

Richmond, *Access to Shipyard III Study* (\$70,000)

San Pablo, *Wildcat Creek Trail Extension Study* (\$17,000)

East Bay Regional Park District, *West County Wastewater District Study* (\$40,000)

East Bay Regional Park District, *Point Pinole to Point Wilson Study* (\$75,000)

East Bay Regional Park District, *Edgewater Technology Park to Point Pinole Regional Shoreline Study* (\$85,000)

California State Parks, *Benicia State Recreation Area Bay Trail* (\$100,000)

Solano County Transportation Authority, *Countywide Trails Plan* (\$40,000)

Sonoma County Regional Parks, *Sonoma County Corridor Study* (\$35,000)

Martinez, *Martinez Regional Shoreline Trail* (\$60,000)

Bay Trail Welcomes New Staff

The Bay Trail Project is excited to welcome two new additions to the staff! In July 2001, **JoAnna Bullock** was hired as Grants Administrator for ABAG, sharing her time with the Bay Trail Project. Also, in October of last year, **Melissa Barry** was hired as a full-time Bay Trail Planner.

JoAnna Bullock is a native of the Bay Area. She received a B.S. from U.C. Berkeley in Environmental Economics and Policy and a M.S. in Environmental Management from USF. She has 20 years experience in the public and private sectors performing project management for California state agencies such as the Air Resources Board, the Public Utilities Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency as well as AT&T and Business for Social Responsibility, a local non-profit organization. JoAnna oversees contract management for the Bay Trail Project, as well as performing grant writing for three ABAG planning programs. She can be reached at 510/464-7968 or by e-mail at JoAnnaB@abag.ca.gov.

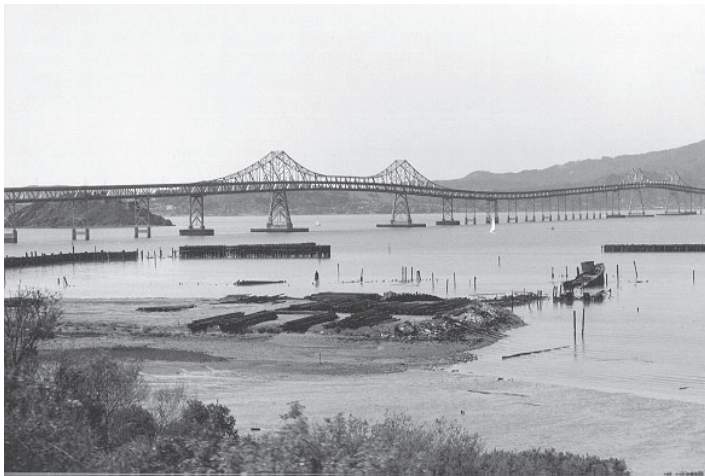
Melissa Barry recently returned to the Bay Area after receiving her Masters in Environmental Planning from Arizona State University. She also holds a B.S. in Biology from the University at Albany, where she focused on ecology. Her professional experience ranges from biological field research to nonprofit and public sector planning. Melissa is the Bay Trail contact for San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. She can be reached at 510/464-7919 or at MelissaB@abag.ca.gov.

2001 Richmond Bay Trail Board Meeting



The Bay Trail Board of Directors held their Spring 2001 meeting in April at the Richmond Marina Bay Harbor Office. Members of the local trails advocacy group Trails for Richmond Action Committee (TRAC) were honored for their dedication to completing the Bay Trail in Richmond. Mayor Rosemary Corbin, Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, Kathy Hoffman of Congressman George Miller's Office and Bay Trail staff presented resolutions and certificates of appreciation to the volunteers for their efforts to increase shoreline trail access in Richmond.

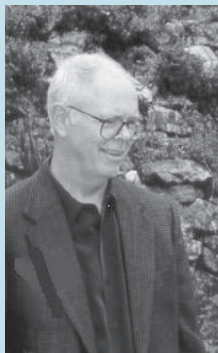
At the meeting, TRAC Chair and Bay Trail Director Bruce Beyaert presented a slide show overview of the Bay Trail in Richmond and TRAC's accomplishments, including securing grant funds, completing planning studies and acquiring easements, and identifying opportunities for advancement of the Bay Trail. The board meeting was followed by a guided bus tour of the Richmond Bay Trail, including Marina Bay, the Rosie the Riveter Memorial in Marina Bay Park, Vincent Park, the former Ford Assembly plant, Miller Knox Regional Shoreline, Point Richmond and Point San Pablo Peninsula. Many thanks to AC Transit for offering a bus and driver for the tour.



Top: Former Richmond Mayor Rosemary Corbin presented certificates of appreciation to the members of Trails for Richmond Action Committee (TRAC) for their dedication to public service and their support of the Bay Trail. Pictured from left are Jerry Rasmussen, Philip Maynard, David Dolberg, Mayor Corbin, Bette Tarr, Whitney Dotson, Bruce Beyaert, and Lyle Fisher.

Bottom: The view from Richmond's San Pablo Peninsula of the Richmond - San Rafael Bridge and the former ferry terminal at Castro Point. **Photo Credits:** Leon Sun, City of Richmond.

Bay Trail Says Goodbye to Longtime Friends



Tom Mikkelsen, Photo courtesy of East Bay Regional Park District

The December 2001 Bay Trail Board meeting at Hakusan Sake Gardens in Napa was a time to honor two longtime Bay Trail leaders, **Tom Mikkelsen** and **Robert Tufts**. Tom Mikkelsen served as the first chair of the Bay Trail Board of Directors from its inception until 1994, and then as an active Board member, until his recent resignation. Mikkelsen was a committed leader and supporter for the Bay Trail and will surely be missed both for his professional contributions and for his passion and commitment to the Bay Trail.

The Bay Trail Board also signed a resolution honoring the service of Robert Tufts, who acted as the chairman of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) from 1984 until recently. Although Tufts will no longer be serving on the Commission, he has left a legacy of improved public access and public participation for the Bay Area.

Bay Trail Map Update

New trail maps will soon be available for Bay Trail users. The Bay Trail Project is working with mapping consultants Reineck & Reineck, designers of the popular *San Francisco Bay Shoreline Guide* maps, to update and design new Bay Trail maps. A set of six maps will provide detailed information about the trail alignment, points of access and trail characteristics. The new maps are expected to be available this summer for purchase on the Bay Trail website. Contact Laura Thompson at (510) 464-7909 or laurat@abag.ca.gov for more information.



Wildlife & Public Access Study Concludes Second Year

By Ceil Scandone

The **Bay Trail Wildlife and Public Access Study** has completed two full years of fieldwork. During October, our three teams of experienced birders completed the final observation shifts at the three study sites in Mill Valley, Redwood Shores and Mountain View. Principal investigators Jana Sokale and Dr. Lynne Trulio now have hundreds of rich data sets to input and analyze. Working with statisticians from the California Department of Fish and Game and San Jose State University, Jana and Lynne will conduct extensive analyses of the data over the next several months. We anticipate releasing a preliminary report on year two summary data in February, and the final report based on both years' data in July 2002.

The Bay Trail initiated the Study to address concerns about the potential impacts of recreational trails on wildlife. The research plan was designed to provide a statistically valid assessment of the effects trail users might have on the diversity, abundance and behavior of shorebirds at three locations on the Bay Trail route. The research team installed two observation quads at each location: one at a site along or near the Bay Trail, and the second at a nearby non-trail control site. Beginning in July 1999, teams of trained observers collected data at each location 4 times each month. Shifts were timed to ensure that observers collected data simultaneously at both the trail and control sites.

Ten months into the first year, Jana and Lynne reported to the Bay Trail Board that the study was functioning as designed and would allow for statistical analyses of the research questions. To increase statistical power and reliability, they suggested that the Study continue for another year. The Board enthusiastically agreed. Thanks to the remarkably rapid response from our donors, including several Board members (see right), we launched the second year of observations in October 2000.

Over the course of the two years, the field observers demonstrated tremendous commitment, outstanding birding skills and considerable aplomb in dealing with unanticipated challenges. Neither blustery weather, locked levee gates, "off-limits" hikers, nor duck hunters deterred them from completing their shifts.

Special recognition and thanks are due to the site supervisors: Debra Chromczak and Lisa Hug, who managed field teams for the full two years, Ingrid Harrauld who served I-I/2 years, and Sean Casto who stepped in last Spring for the final six months of field work. All did a stellar job of ensuring that all shifts were covered and data were recorded properly.

As the second year drew to a close, the Bay Trail Steering Committee considered whether to continue the Study for another year. With funding always a key issue, we were thrilled to hear from Board member Joe LaClair of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission that they had secured funds for continued research from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA's support reflects that the study has generated considerable interest from resource managers, parks departments and others throughout the country who are working to assure that trails are developed in a way that respects and protects wildlife. Over the next several months, guided by data from the first two years, we will work with Board members, the research team and other stakeholders to determine what additional research questions to explore and design an appropriate research plan. We hope to have researchers back in the field by this time next year.

A complete field team list is included on page 6. For more information, including copies of reports, contact **Ceil Scandone**, Wildlife and Public Access Study Coordinator, at 510/464-7961 or ceils@abag.ca.gov.



Above: Observers Harold Fukuma and Hazel Gibson collect data at the Mountain View study site.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to the following funders, including several Bay Trail Boardmembers, who enabled us to conduct the first two years of this groundbreaking field research:

Bay Trail Project
State Coastal Conservancy
California Trails & Greenways Foundation
Cargill Salt Company
East Bay Regional Park District
National Park Service
Oracle Corporation
Vandenberg/Lipton
Varian Foundation
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Thanks to the following people and organizations for their assistance in establishing the study sites:

Joy Albertson, US Fish and Wildlife Service
David Hansen, Marin Open Space District
Lori Johnson, Cargill Salt Company
Glenn Lyles, City of Mountain View
Teresa Le Blanc, Department of Fish and Game
Clyde Morris, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Rick Parmer, Department of Fish and Game
Stephen Petterle, Marin Open Space District
Jill Singleton, Cargill Salt Company
Chuck Taylor, Cargill Salt Company
Peter Vorametsanti, Redwood City

And thanks to the following people for their help in establishing the statistical tests and developing the data collection forms:

Shannon Bros, San Jose State University
John Geibel, Department of Fish and Game
Philip Law, Department of Fish and Game
Lynne Stenzel, Point Reyes Bird Observatory

Bay Area Earth Day 2002

April 22, 2002

This year's theme for Earth Day is

CELEBRATE THE BAY!

This year, **Earth Day** events will be taking place in many spectacular locations along the **Bay Trail**. From educational and informational events to activities such as hiking, biking and kayaking, there will be something for everyone.

Acterra (formerly Bay Area Action) coordinates the Bay Area Earth Day Coalition, a regional network that plans and publicizes the events. For more information about Earth Day, or to get involved in the planning of events, see the Bay Area Earth Day 2002 homepage, at <http://www.bayareaearthday.net/>.



Thanks! We extend our gratitude to the following for their generous contributions to the Bay Trail Project:

Jerry L. Barker, Diane R. Beyer, Bill Bliss, Robert & Patricia Brown, James M. Churma, Howard Cogswell, Nancy Cyton, John Dennis, Joseph J. Devine, Judith Dunmeyer, Richard Forst, Diane Hedler, Kristin Y. Hill, Kathy Keenan Madden (in memory of Eva Hamper), Ron Keimach, Lynda Korsan, Arleen R. Kukua, Jabby Lowe, Tom Mikkelsen, Shanna O'Hare, Barry N. Pearl, Susan R. Rinehart, Lloyd Sawchuck, Cynthia K. Steiner, Revan & Elsa Tranter, Paula Troy, Watson Wyatt Worldwide, United Way, Don Weden, Hillary R. Weingast, Linda Q. Zhao

S.F. BAY TRAIL PROJECT
P.O. Box 2050
Oakland, CA 94604
510/464-7935
Baytrail@abag.ca.gov
<http://baytrail.abag.ca.gov>

STAFF

Janet McBride, Project Manager (lead contact for Alameda and Contra Costa counties)
510/464-7935

Laura Thompson, Bay Trail Planner (lead contact for Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Solano and San Francisco counties)
510/464-7909

Melissa Barry, Bay Trail Planner (lead contact for San Mateo and Santa Clara counties)
510/464-7919

Ceil Scandone, Wildlife & Public Access Study Coordinator
510/464-7961

JoAnna Bullock, Grants Administrator
510/464-7968

BAY TRAIL RIDER, the newsletter of the San Francisco Bay Trail Project, highlights the progress and development of the Bay Trail. For more information about the Bay Trail, visit our website or call, write or e-mail us.

The Wildlife & Public Access Field Research Study Team

Continued from page 5.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS: Dr. Lynne Trulio, Jana Sokale

SITE SUPERVISORS: Debra Chromczak (Mountain View), Ingrid Harrald (Redwood Shores), Lisa Hug (Mill Valley), Sean Casto (Interim Site Supervisor, Redwood Shores)

OBSERVERS: Victoria Baker, Michelle Boone, Emily Brockman, Chris Brown, Allison Busch, Brandon Candelina, Kelly Davidson Chou, Meta Dittmer, Anthony Fisher, Harold Fukuma, Autumn Garrett, Hazel Gibson, Elaine Hards, Mark Homrighausen, Esperanza Licad, Bob Long, David Luther, Barbara Maximovich, Melissa McCoy, Carrie McCracken, Amy Morris, Adrienne Morrison, Susan O'Neil, Mike Perlmutter, Chrissy Piotrowski, Roni Rogers, Nicole Salgado, Arthur Salmon, Jan Talbert, Amy Upgren, Heather White, Pete Zavatiero

PINCH HITTERS: Ryan Binns, Chris Corben, Janet Homrighausen, John Luther



San Francisco Bay Trail Project
P.O. Box 2050
Oakland, CA 94604-2050

Nonprofit org.
U.S. postage paid

Oakland, CA
Permit no. 973

